

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A telecommunications device for permitting a user to perform a plurality of communication related tasks concurrently, comprising:

a user input device;

a display having a tools portion and a windows portion; and

5 a processing element, connected to the user input device and the display, including

means for representing the communication related tasks as objects in the tools portion,

means for launching different ones of the communication related tasks
10 based upon selection of corresponding ones of the communication related task objects by the user via the user input device, and

means for changing the window portion based on the user selection without changing the tools portion.

2. The telecommunications device of claim 1, wherein the user input device is a touch screen element on the display, and wherein the launching means comprises

means for executing one of the communication related tasks based on
5 the user touching a corresponding one of the communication related task objects on the touch screen element.

3. The telecommunications device of claim 1, wherein the launching means comprises

means for executing a plurality of the communication related tasks
concurrently when a corresponding plurality of the communication related task
5 objects are selected by the user.

4. The telecommunications device of claim 3, wherein the executing
means includes
means for sending and receiving voice calls and sending and receiving
notes.

5. The telecommunications device of claim 1, wherein the processing
element further includes
means for partitioning the display into the window portion and the
tools portion.

6. The telecommunications device of claim 1, wherein the changing
means includes
means for providing access to the communication related task objects
in the tools portion regardless of the user selection.

7. The telecommunications device of claim 1, wherein the
telecommunications device is a mobile telephone.

8. A graphical user interface manager for controlling a telecommunications device display, having a window portion and a tools portion, to permit a user to perform a plurality of communication related tasks concurrently, comprising:

5 means for representing the communication related tasks as objects in the tools portion;

means for launching different ones of the communication related tasks based upon selection of corresponding ones of the communication related task objects by the user; and

10 means for changing the window portion based on the user selection without changing the tools portion.

9. The graphical user interface manager of claim 8, wherein the telecommunications device display is a touch screen display, and wherein the launching means comprises

means for executing one of the communication related tasks based on
5 the user touching a corresponding one of the communication related task objects on the touch screen display.

10. The graphical user interface manager of claim 8, wherein the launching means comprises

means for executing a plurality of the communication related tasks concurrently when a corresponding plurality of the communication related task
5 objects are selected by the user.

11. The graphical user interface manager of claim 10, wherein the executing means includes
- means for sending and receiving voice calls and sending and receiving notes.
12. The graphical user interface manager of claim 8, further including
- means for partitioning the telecommunications device display into the window portion and the tools portion.
13. The graphical user interface manager of claim 8, wherein the changing means includes
- means for providing access to the communication related task objects in the tools portion regardless of the user selection.

14. A method of controlling a telecommunications device display, having a window portion and a display portion, to permit a user to perform a plurality of communication related tasks concurrently, comprising the steps of:

- representing the communication related tasks as objects in the tools portion;
- 5 launching different ones of the communication related tasks based upon selection of corresponding ones of the communication related task objects by the user;
- changing the window portion based on the user selection; and
- maintaining the tools portion unchanged regardless of the user selection.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the telecommunications device display is a touch screen display, and wherein the launching step comprises the substep of

- executing one of the communication related tasks based on the user touching a corresponding one of the communication related task objects on the touch screen display.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the launching step comprises the substep of

- executing a plurality of the communication related tasks concurrently when a corresponding plurality of the communication related task objects are selected by the user.

17. A method of concurrently performing a plurality of communication tasks on a telecommunications device, the telecommunications device having a display screen displaying a plurality of communication task objects corresponding to the plurality of communication tasks, the method comprising the steps of:

- 5 receiving a first user selection signal, the first user selection signal representing a selection of a first one of the plurality of communication task objects by a user;
executing a first one of the plurality of communication tasks corresponding to the selected first communication task object;
- 10 receiving a second user selection signal while executing the first communication task, the second user selection signal representing a selection of a second one of the plurality of communication task objects by the user; and
executing a second one of the plurality of communication tasks corresponding to the selected second communication task object while continuing to execute the first
15 communication task.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the first communication task object is a voice call object for establishing a voice call, and wherein the first communication task executing step comprises the substeps of

- opening a voice call window on the display screen,
- 5 entering an identity of a recipient of the voice call, and
establishing the voice call with the voice call recipient.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the second communication task object is a note object for sending a note, and wherein the second communication task executing step comprises the substeps of

- opening a note window on the display screen,
- 5 entering note text for the note, the note being pre-addressed to the voice call recipient, and
- sending the note.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the second communication task executing step further comprises the substep of

- changing a recipient of the note to identify a recipient other than the voice call recipient.

21. The method of claim 18, wherein the second communication task object is a voice call object, and wherein the second communication task executing step comprises the substeps of

- opening a voice call window on the display screen,
- 5 entering an identity of another voice call recipient,
- establishing the voice call with the another voice call recipient.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein the second communication task executing step further comprises the substeps of

- prompting the user to select either to place the voice call recipient on hold or to terminate the voice call with the voice call recipient, and

5 receiving a selection signal from the user.

23. The method of claim 17, wherein the first communication task object is a note object for sending a note, and wherein the first communication task executing step comprises the substeps of

opening a note window on the display screen,
5 entering note text and an identity of a note recipient, and
sending the note to the note recipient.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the second communication task object is a voice call object for establishing a voice call, and wherein the second communication task executing step comprises the substeps of

opening a voice call window on the display screen,
5 entering an identity of a recipient of the voice call, and
establishing the voice call with the voice call recipient.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the second user selection signal receiving step comprises the substeps of

receiving a voice call from a caller,
opening a voice call window informing the user of an identity of the
5 caller, and
receiving the second user selection signal in response to the received
voice call, the second user selection signal being an indication of an
acceptance or a denial of the received voice call.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the second communication task executing step comprises the substep of

permitting the user to converse with the caller when the second user selection signal indicates an acceptance.

27. The method of claim 17, wherein the first user selection signal receiving step comprises the substeps of

receiving a voice call from a caller,

opening a voice call window informing the user of an identity of the

5 caller, and

receiving the first user selection signal in response to the received voice call, the first user selection signal being an indication of an acceptance or a denial of the received voice call.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the first communication task executing step comprises the substep of

permitting the user to converse with the caller when the first user selection signal indicates an acceptance.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the second user selection signal receiving step comprises the substeps of

receiving a second voice call from a second caller,

opening a voice call window informing the user of an identity of the
5 second caller, and

receiving the second user selection signal in response to the received
second voice call, the second user selection signal being an indication of an
acceptance or a denial of the received second voice call.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein the second communication task
executing step comprises the substep of

permitting the user to converse with the second caller when the second
user selection signal indicates an acceptance.